

SENATE—Tuesday, May 25, 1999

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable GEORGE V. VOINOVICH, a Senator from the State of Ohio.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. This morning we are privileged to have with us a guest Chaplain, Dr. Ronnie W. Floyd, of the First Baptist Church, Springdale, AR.

Pastor Floyd.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Dr. Ronnie W. Floyd, First Baptist Church, Springdale, AR, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray together.

Holy God, I thank You that Your Word says in Romans 13:1, "For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God." I am thankful the authority granted to these Senators today has not been granted simply by their constituencies but, most of all, that authority is given by You.

Therefore, O God, the responsibility is so great upon these men and women today. Every decision that is made has such a great impact all across the world.

So Lord, I ask for the Holy Spirit of God to empower these leaders in their decisionmaking today. May the Word of God be their source of authority. May the Lord Jesus Christ be the only One they desire to please. May the people they represent in this country, whether rich or poor, male or female, or whatever race they may represent, be the beneficiaries of godly, holy, decisionmaking today.

O Father, America needs spiritual revival, reformation, and awakening. So God, in the name of Your son, Jesus Christ, we close this prayer, asking You and believing in You to send a spiritual revival to our Nation that would change lives, renew churches, restore and refresh family relationships, provide hope to every American and, most of all, give You glory. Amen.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 25, 1999.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, section 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable GEORGE V. VOINOVICH,

a Senator from the State of Ohio, to perform the duties of the Chair.

STROM THURMOND,
President pro tempore.

Mr. VOINOVICH thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I yield to the distinguished Senator from Arkansas.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I thank the Senator for yielding.

DR. RONNIE W. FLOYD, GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I take a moment to express my appreciation to our guest Chaplain, Pastor Ronnie Floyd, Pastor of the First Baptist Church, Springdale, AR, who led the Senate in our opening prayer today. Chaplain Ogilvie was gracious enough to allow Pastor Floyd to lead us in prayer.

Pastor Floyd has been a dear friend of mine for many years; he has had a tremendous impact upon my family and my children. I have a son and daughter-in-law who today still worship in his church and have been greatly impacted by his ministry. Pastor Floyd has a national television ministry and has touched lives all across this country. It is a great privilege today to have him in our Nation's Capitol ministering to us in the Senate.

I thank the Chair. I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from New Hampshire.

SCHEDULE

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, the leader has asked me to make a couple of announcements this morning.

The Senate, of course, will resume consideration of the defense authorization bill, and under the previous order the Senate will debate several amendments with the votes on those amendments occurring in a stacked sequence beginning at 2:15 today. Therefore, Senators can expect at least three votes occurring at 2:15 this afternoon. It is the intention of the majority leader to complete action on this bill as early as

possible this week, and therefore Senators can expect busy sessions each day and evening.

I thank my colleagues for their attention to this matter.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. 1059, which the clerk will report.

The legislative assistant read as follows:

A bill (S. 1059) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2000 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Roberts/Warner amendment No. 377, to express the sense of the Senate regarding the legal effect of the new Strategic Concept of NATO (the document approved by the Heads of State and Government participating in the meeting of the North Atlantic Council in Washington, D.C., on April 23 and 24, 1999).

Warner amendment No. 378 (to Amendment No. 377), to require the President to submit to the Senate a report containing an analysis of the potential threats facing NATO in the first decade of the next millennium, with particular reference to those threats facing a member nation or several member nations where the commitment of NATO forces will be "out of area", or beyond the borders of NATO member nations.

Wellstone amendment No. 380, to expand the list of diseases presumed to be service-connected for radiation-exposed veterans.

Wellstone amendment No. 381, to require the Secretary of Defense to provide information and technical guidance to certain foreign nations regarding environmental contamination at United States military installations closed or being closed in such nations.

Wellstone amendment No. 382, to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide Congress with information to evaluate the outcome of welfare reform.

Specter amendment No. 383, to direct the President, pursuant to the United